

Testimony of Gregory B. Allard
American Ambulance Service, Inc., Vice President
Eastern CT EMS Council, President
Council of Regional Chairpersons, President

Appropriations Committee

Friday, March 6, 2015

Senator Bye, Representative Walker and distinguished members of the Appropriations Committee.

My name is Greg Allard and my testimony today is related to

1. ***Raised Bill No. 6824, An Act Concerning the State Budget.***

I strongly encourage this committee to support the Department of Public Health Office of Emergency Medical Services budget by making the five Regional EMS Coordinator positions permanent.

Since 2009 the legislature has found funding through the Tobacco Fund to support these positions which are currently durational. Making these positions permanent would remove the annual burden of having to justify their existence and the begging required finding funding sources.

The service they provide internally within DPH-OEMS and to the external services and individual providers are second to none. Communication and coordination are invaluable and they all do this extremely well. I am not going to take the time to list off the numerous things they have achieved or the variety of committees they are active in however I will emphasize the fact that without these people in these roles DPH-OEMS would fail to complete their mission.

In closing, I'd like to remind to you support the DPH budget and make the five Regional EMS Coordinator positions permanent.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory B. Allard